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CITRUS

NOVEMBER FORECAST MATURITY TEST RESULTS AND FRUIT SIZE



November 12, 2003

ORANGES RECORD 252.0 MILLION BOXES

The October 1 forecasts for all states are repeated in this report since no November forecasts are made. The Florida all orange forecast is 24 percent more than the 203.0 million boxes produced last season and three percent more than the former record high 244.0 million boxes in the 1997-98 season. During the previous 10 seasons, the all orange forecast has differed from final recorded utilization by an average of 3.6 percent. Seasonal differences range from 9.4 percent below in 1999-00 to 7.5 percent above in 2000-01. October forecasts in four of the 10 seasons have been above and six below final production.

Although bearing trees numbers are estimated to be three percent less than last season, average fruit per tree (fruit set) is up over 28 percent, reflecting the heavy bloom period and excellent weather conditions this year. The procedures used in all forecasts are identical with past seasons.

FCOJ YIELD 1.55 GALLONS PER BOX

Since there are no November forecasts or projections, the forecast for FCOJ yield remains at 1.55 gallons per box at 42.0 degrees Brix equivalent. Maturity test results on fruit collected October 27-28 with comparisons to the previous season are presented on page three. All averages are unadjusted as in prior seasons and provide a measure of change occurring in fruit still on the trees. The tests do not

Citrus production, October 1, 2003
forecasts by varieties and states, with comparisons

Crop and State	Production			Forecast
	2000-01	2001-02	2002-03	2003-04
Early, Midseason,	--- 1,000 boxes ---			
FLORIDA	128,000	128,000	112,000	137,000
California	35,500	32,000	41,000	39,000
Texas	2,000	1,530	1,350	1,300
Arizona	480	270	200	220
Total Above Varieties	165,980	161,800	154,550	177,520
Valencias:				
FLORIDA	95,300	102,000	91,000	115,000
California	19,000	19,500	21,000	20,000
Texas	235	210	220	250
Arizona	420	250	270	250
Total Valencias	114,955	121,960	112,490	135,500
All Oranges:				
FLORIDA	223,300	230,000	203,000	252,000
California	54,500	51,500	62,000	59,000
Texas	2,235	1,740	1,570	1,550
Arizona	900	520	470	470
Total All Oranges	280,935	283,760	267,040	313,020

FORECAST DATES 2003-04 SEASON

December 11, 2003
January 12, 2004
February 10, 2004
March 10, 2004
April 8, 2004
May 12, 2004
June 11, 2004
July 12, 2004

reflect the same levels of maturity as those being reported by processors from plant tests or plant recovery rates because the latter relate to fruit that have been harvested.

The final yield as reported by the Florida Citrus Processors Association for last season was 1.54 gallons per box. The record high yield occurred in the 1998-99 season at 1.63 gallons.

CROP PROGRESS

Unlike the previous month, October weather turned dry and slightly cooler earlier in the month. Rainfall totals for the month were near normal levels with most areas receiving light amounts throughout the month. Cumulative amounts for the year are still above normal levels. Temperatures turned warmer later in the month with highs in the high 80's. Growers returned to irrigation on a regular basis during the last half of the month to maintain surface soil moisture levels. Drying winds the last of the month also led to slight dehydration of trees.

Citrus crops in all areas are making excellent progress with no major problems reported. Good to excellent fruit sizes are reported. Growers and caretakers are conducting routine summer cultural practices including weed and cover crop control and dead tree removal and replacement. Harvest of oranges, grapefruit, and tangerines for the fresh market began in mid-September and many processing plants are now open.

**FLORIDA CITRUS: Distribution of 2002-03 production and 2003-04
forecast by marketing districts and fruit types**

Fruit type	Indian River		Gulf		Florida SunRidge		State total	
	2002-03	2003-04	2002-03	2003-04	2002-03	2003-04	2002-03	2003-04
--- 1,000 boxes ---								
ORANGES:								
Early-midseason-Navel	7,500	8,600	21,700	21,500	82,800	106,900	112,000	137,000
Valencia	8,500	11,700	24,300	29,000	58,200	74,300	91,000	115,000
Total Oranges	16,000	20,300	46,000	50,500	141,000	181,200	203,000	252,000
GRAPEFRUIT:								
White	10,200	12,300	1,200	1,100	4,800	3,600	16,200	17,000
Colored	13,900	17,300	3,800	2,900	4,800	4,800	22,500	25,000
Total Grapefruit	24,100	29,600	5,000	4,000	9,600	8,400	38,700	42,000

Citrus production, October 1, 2003
forecasts by varieties and states, with comparisons

Crop and State	Production			Forecast
	2000-01	2001-02	2002-03	2003-04
--- 1,000 boxes ---				
Grapefruit:				
FLORIDA-All	46,000	46,700	38,700	42,000
White ^{1/}	18,700	18,900	16,200	17,000
Colored	^{2/} 27,300	27,800	22,500	25,000
Texas	7,200	5,900	5,650	5,300
Arizona	250	160	130	90
California	6,300	5,900	5,600	5,500
Total Grapefruit	59,750	58,660	50,080	52,890
Lemons:				
California	22,600	18,300	24,000	23,000
Arizona	3,600	2,800	3,000	3,000
Total Lemons	26,200	21,100	27,000	26,000
Limes: Florida	250	150	^{3/}	^{3/}
Temples: Florida	1,250	1,550	1,300	1,400
Tangelos: Florida	2,100	2,150	2,350	1,300
K-Early: Florida	40	30	^{3/}	^{3/}
Tangerines:				
FLORIDA-All	5,600	6,600	5,500	6,600
Early ^{4/}	3,550	4,350	3,000	4,400
Honey	2,050	2,250	2,500	2,200
California ^{5/}	2,200	2,200	2,500	2,500
Arizona ^{5/}	650	620	430	600
Total Tangerines	8,450	9,420	8,430	9,700

^{1/} Includes seedy. ^{2/} Excludes two million boxes of economic abandonment.
^{3/} No forecast. ^{4/} 2000-01 through 2001-02 -- Robinson, Fallglo, Sunburst, and Dancy; 2002-03 production and 2003-04 forecast -- Fallglo and Sunburst only.
^{5/} Includes tangelos.

**ESTIMATES OF PRODUCTION
BY MARKETING DISTRICTS**

Production forecasts made in October for Florida oranges and grapefruit have been divided between marketing districts for this report. These are shown in the table above with the 2002-03 estimates of production for comparisons. Marketing District II is the legally defined Indian River District along the East Coast. Marketing District III includes the Gulf counties of Charlotte, Collier, Glades, Hendry, and Lee. Marketing District I-the Florida SunRidge-includes all other citrus producing counties.

MATURITY TEST RESULTS

The maturity test results reported on page three are from fruit collected October 27-28 and tested October 29-31. Samples were collected from the same trees as the September and October surveys and reflect maturity levels for unharvested fruit.

Average maturity levels are advanced for this time of year although not quite as much as indicated by last month's tests. Acid levels are near the same as last season for early and late oranges but slightly higher for mids. Soluble solids (Brix) is lower for earlyls and higher for mids leading to slightly lower ratios than last season. Brix and ratios are the highest in many seasons for Valencia oranges, possibly reflecting a larger amount of younger tree fruit.

Grapefruit acid levels are near the same as last season which is the lowest since the mid 1990's. Brix levels are less than last season but at a higher level than previous seasons. This leads to average ratios less than last season but again higher than previous seasons.

UNADJUSTED MATURITY TESTS: Average of regular bloom fruit from sample groves, 2002-03 and 2003-04 seasons

Fruit type (No. groves) test date	Acid		Solids (Brix)		Ratio		Unfinished juice per box		Solids per box	
	2002-03	2003-04	2002-03	2003-04	2002-03	2003-04	2002-03	2003-04	2002-03	2003-04
	Percent		Percent				Pounds		Pounds	
Juice and solids per box are unadjusted and not comparable to plant test results.										
ORANGES:										
Early (119-118)										
Sep 1	1.29	1.21	9.40	9.34	7.45	7.85	45.27	42.70	4.26	3.99
Oct 1	0.89	0.83	9.82	9.69	11.40	11.82	51.77	49.07	5.08	4.75
Nov 1	0.71	0.72	10.53	10.43	15.24	14.77	53.17	50.96	5.60	5.31
Mid (55-55)										
Sep 1	1.42	1.43	9.03	9.35	6.46	6.63	45.90	44.12	4.14	4.13
Oct 1	1.01	1.06	9.58	9.73	9.68	9.39	52.84	49.26	5.06	4.79
Nov 1	0.83	0.88	10.42	10.68	12.87	12.43	54.65	52.31	5.69	5.58
Late (150-150)										
Sep 1	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Oct 1	2.04	2.01	8.70	8.92	4.34	4.47	48.96	46.28	4.26	4.13
Nov 1	1.64	1.63	9.23	9.55	5.72	5.91	52.37	51.07	4.83	4.88
GRAPEFRUIT:										
White Seedless (49-47)										
Sep 1	1.56	1.54	9.68	9.53	6.22	6.19	34.90	35.12	3.38	3.35
Oct 1	1.43	1.40	9.92	9.78	6.99	7.03	37.95	38.84	3.76	3.80
Nov 1	1.26	1.26	10.22	9.98	8.19	7.97	40.23	42.74	4.10	4.27
Colored Seedless (44-42)										
Sep 1	1.54	1.50	10.17	9.81	6.62	6.55	35.97	34.86	3.66	3.42
Oct 1	1.33	1.33	10.33	10.11	7.81	7.61	39.50	40.07	4.08	4.05
Nov 1	1.19	1.23	10.70	10.39	9.02	8.48	42.20	43.05	4.52	4.48

NOTICE: All samples were run through an FMC 091 machine using mechanical pressure only. This machine utilizes a .040 short strainer and standard 5/8-inch orifice tube. The beam settings are also identical to past tests and no restrictors are used.

Maturity test averages by areas, November 1, 2003

Fruit type	Groves sampled	Acid	Solids (Brix)	Ratio	Unfinished juice per box	Solids per box
	Number	Percent	Percent		Pounds	Pounds
ORANGES:						
Early						
Indian River Dist.	9	0.79	10.90	13.91	50.43	5.51
Other Areas	109	0.71	10.39	14.84	51.00	5.30
Midseason						
Indian River Dist.	10	0.92	10.68	11.65	52.25	5.58
Other Areas	45	0.87	10.68	12.61	52.33	5.59
Late						
Indian River Dist.	26	1.59	9.64	6.12	51.67	4.99
Other Areas	124	1.64	9.53	5.86	50.94	4.86
GRAPEFRUIT:						
White Seedless						
Indian River Dist.	35	1.28	10.11	7.91	42.97	4.34
Other Areas	12	1.19	9.61	8.16	42.08	4.04
Colored Seedless						
Indian River Dist.	34	1.24	10.42	8.44	43.19	4.51
Other Areas	8	1.19	10.26	8.65	42.45	4.36

FRUIT SIZE COMPARISONS BY TYPES TO PREVIOUS SEASONS

Size frequency distributions developed from the October size survey are shown in the following table. The distributions are by percent of fruit falling within the size range of each 4/5-bushel container. These frequency distributions relate to fruit from regular bloom and exclude summer bloom in all years.

Florida Citrus: Size frequency distributions from October measurements

Type of fruit and size in 4/5-bushel containers	2001	2002	2003
--- Percent ---			
Early and midseason oranges: (excluding Navels)			
64 and larger	1.3	2.2	2.1
80	5.7	11.2	9.4
100	23.1	33.0	29.4
125	37.9	34.2	34.5
163 and smaller	32.0	19.4	24.6
Navel oranges:			
64 and larger	49.0	49.1	70.2
80	32.3	34.6	22.6
100	15.1	12.4	5.8
125	3.0	3.3	1.4
163 and smaller	0.6	0.6	0.0
Valencia oranges:			
64 and larger	0.9	3.1	2.2
80	8.1	18.4	14.1
100	30.4	40.7	38.9
125	34.6	27.0	31.5
163 and smaller	26.0	10.8	13.3
White seedless grapefruit:			
32 and larger	5.9	16.6	12.0
36	10.7	20.0	15.5
40	17.0	22.9	21.1
48	19.6	17.9	17.3
56	15.5	9.2	11.9
63 and smaller	31.3	13.4	22.2
Colored seedless grapefruit:			
32 and larger	2.8	11.9	6.8
36	9.0	15.3	10.0
40	14.1	21.5	18.7
48	18.8	20.3	21.3
56	17.6	12.1	15.4
63 and smaller	37.7	18.9	27.8
Honey tangerines:			
80 and larger	3.7	4.7	4.9
100	21.7	15.0	27.1
120	28.8	30.0	34.1
176	17.7	20.1	13.6
210 and smaller	28.1	30.2	20.3
Sunburst tangerines:			
80 and larger	4.5	11.0	6.8
100	13.1	26.1	20.2
120	23.0	32.6	31.7
176	18.5	16.4	15.9
210 and smaller	40.9	13.9	25.4
Tangelos:			
80 and larger	24.9	23.6	36.9
100	32.1	30.3	29.0
120	23.3	29.5	20.8
156 and smaller	19.7	16.6	13.3

The charts below describe the relationships of the fruit size measurements with those taken in the previous year. The diameter measurements shown are the minimum values of each eighth inch range, except for the smallest values.

CHART 1: Early and midseason oranges (excluding Navels) size frequency by diameter from October measurements.

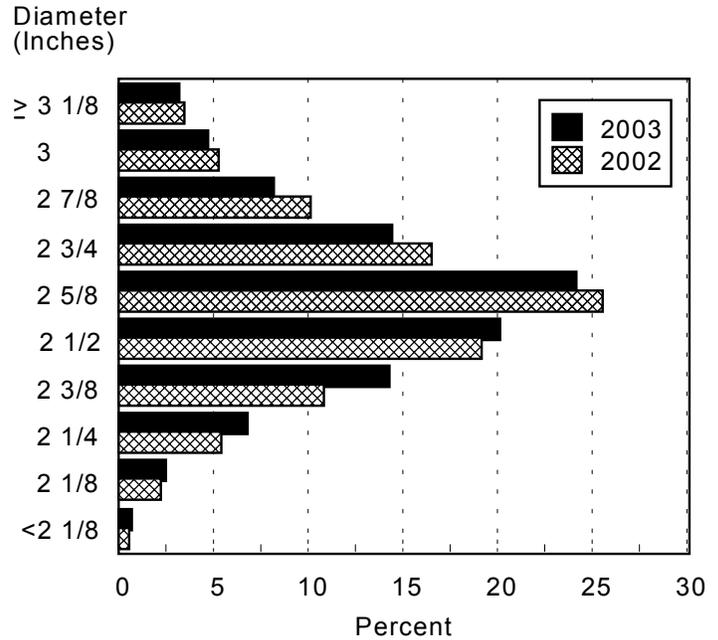


CHART 2: White seedless grapefruit size frequency by diameter from October measurements.

